

Feb. 24 1946

Mr. Raleigh Mackey
1831 E. 53rd St.
Los. Angeles, Cal.

Dear Mackey:

I just received your letter, and am hastening to answer it. First of all I want to get started on publicity, and the most important thing to be arranged for is the manager of the team. I want you back with us, and most important of all the men on the team want you back. About the two years contract, I would be very happy to be able to have you as long as we have a ballclub. I do not like changing managers. The question of keeping you is purely one of finances. You know the story of our baseball as well as I do. It has been a continuous story of ups and downs. I am being honest when I say to you, I believe the baseball has reached a spot where it should be permanent, and should continue to grow. A lot depends on the Negroes going back to work. Today they are not working. I believe they will return when the strikes end. I certainly hope so. The unemployment insurance cannot go on forever. I am enclosing the contract, please sign and return them to me right away, so I can send yours back to you.

I read in the paper that Irvin and Davis had signed with Mexico. They are due to come home for March, and when they get here I am going to put forth every effort to keep them. Not only Irvin and Davis, but Dandridge also. In fact all those good men. We have three Sundays at home in May and 3 in June, and if we can get off to a good start and win the first half, it will mean a lot. I have gambled so much I have decided to gamble a little more, and try to have the best team possible. The team will have to win, and I am sure you will be able to help them more than any one else.

You should know by now, I do not take advantage of anyone. In continuing in the baseball, I feel I am doing something for the whole race. There is no question about the Negroes wanting the baseball, and if they are working they will support it. Will be looking to hear from you right away.

Very Truly Yours